

EXHIBIT 184
DATE 3-26-09
SB 287

Dear Representatives of House Business and Labor Committee

I appreciate the many hours of focus and effort you put forth in your service as Legislators. Thank you for the great service you provide.

I am a professional practitioner and a consumer of alternative health care. I belong to an unlicensed alternative health care profession and I support SB 287, The Consumer Health Freedom and Access Act.

Thank you for your time and consideration in hearing my concerns that reflect my rights to continue practicing as a successful professional of alternative health care as well as a consumer having the right to choose.

I am concerned that licensed professions are sanctioning other professions without any reason other than an overlap of scope. As I am a professional practitioner I would like to know that my livelihood is protected." SB287 forces boards to follow court decisions that say one profession can't shut down another profession without cause." SB 287 addresses this problem and adds additional public protection"

Please take time to consider the basis behind this bill and support SB 287. At this point in time, this issue is dividing the health care community. On one side are the licensed professions and on the other are unlicensed alternative health care professions. I would like to point out that consumers are overwhelmingly supporting SB 287 and much of the opposition is coming from licensed practitioners.

It is important for people to realize that there are many qualified professional practitioners in the State of Montana. We are very fortunate to have such an array of therapies and qualified professionals to choose from. It is important to point out that at this point in time there are no options for many of us to be licensed and that SB 287 is not a bill in substitute for licensing. SB287 protects the consumer even more for we have to show our credentials and reveal we are not licensed and the consumer can then choose. The only other way to protect these professions would be to license them all. A minimum of about 400 bills would be needed to cover the 1200+ professions at a tremendous cost to the state millions of dollars just to rule-make alone and much more to go through the legislative process. In addition many years before anything might get passed.

Many of us unlicensed practitioners have a great amount invested in our training and professions. I would like to explain the background of investment of my training in order that you may better understand the reference points of "professional and qualified" in which I am speaking from. For the past ten years I have been building a practice of Chinese Medical Therapies. I offer Chinese Medical Massage, Structural Acupressure and Qi Gong Instruction. All of which are part of the four pillars of Ancient Chinese Medicine.

I have well over a thousand hours of Massage training in Western and Asian Healing Arts Certifications. In addition, I have trained extensively with nearly a thousand hours between Oregon College of Oriental Medicine and my studies in China. Behind these certifications are the unique skills I have attained in the past ten years where I have made eight trips to China to train with Chinese medicine doctors and Qi Gong masters. Combined with these experiences and certifications, I believe I am able to provide an effective, safe therapy for the clients who choose to receive my work. These qualifications are mirrored back to me through the positive response from clients who receive from me. Many of the licensed practitioners are my clients and send their patients to me.

On behalf of my clients' right to choose and myself as a consumer as well as an alternative health care professional concerned with maintaining my livelihood, I ask that you please support SB 287. I would like to be able to continue my services providing the publics right to choose alternative health care

Many of the 1200 different types of alternative health practitioners have unique skills and training to offer the communities we serve. We support the licensed health care practitioners, specialists and doctors. As qualified professionals, we are specialized with in the scope of our practice as well as limited, so we rely on and refer to the Nd's and Dr's and specialists who are able to offer a broader scale of other options. I am grateful for the amazing help I have received from the many gifted practitioners we have in this community and across the state of Montana. Please help protect the many unique professions under SB 287 and vote yes.

Thank you for your time and consideration. In Gratitude

Jennifer Daly of Inner Rivers Chinese Medical Therapies P.O. Box 416, Helena Mt. 59624 (406-449-1239)